Kuri Regulation—Conducting lottery without Government sanction—compounding of offence.

316. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Superintendent of Registration was not competent to compound an offence under the Kuri Regulation without resort to any other authority sometime before;

(b) if so, it is a fact that the Superintendent of Registration has been asked 'to attend to the business of his own department and not to interfere with matters which do not concern him' in connection with the compounding of the offence of conducting lottery without Government sanction alleged to be committed by one P. S. Abdu;

(c) how did Abdu's prosecution end, if he had been prosecuted;

(d) why was not the prosecution withdrawn when the alleged offence had been compounded by a competent authority;

(e) how does the compounding by the Registrar become an interference with matters which do not concern him?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—(a) In pursuance of the rules framed by the Government under the Cochin Kuries Regulation, the Superintendent of Registration was, until the rules were amended recently, invested with the power of compounding some offence under that Regulation.

(b) Government regret that the orders under reference cannot be published.

(c) The accused was acquitted under section 221 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

(d) It was not thought necessary to withdraw the prosecution because the Court could and did acquit the accused on the strength of the compounding effected by the Superintendent of Registration.

(e) In view of the answer given above to clause (b), this question does not arise.

Demonstration of the use of manure by the Agricultural Department.

317. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the extent of land in the Mulakunnathukavu constituency and belonging to tenants on which demonstration of the use of manure, etc., was shown by the Agricultural Department in 1109;

(b) the total yield obtained from such lands in 1109;

(c) the cost of cultivation of the area in (a) according to the Government methods;

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